this purpose is under consideration of the proposed partners. The total project cost is estimated to be Rs. 5.0 crores. The purpose of the proposed project is monitoring of genetic variation by DNA fingure printing, establishment of Gene Banks, semen analysis and determination of the time of ovulation, embryo transfer, artificial insemination etc.

(c) and (d) No foreign technical or financial assistance is visualised.

*[Translation]*

**Shifting of Air Force Command Headquarter from Jodhpur**

887. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA:

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the headquarter of the Air Force command is being shifted outside Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) if so, whether *status quo* would be maintained in this regard in view of strategic importance of Jodhpur and also representations from the State Government and people's representations; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir. Headquarter of South Western Air Command is proposad to be shifted to Gandhinagar (Gujarat) from Jodhpur (Rajasthan).

(b) Gandhinagar is operationally better located and there is better infrastructure available at Gandhinagar.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Same as (b) above.

*[English]*

**Condition of NH-23 from Rourkela to Banarpal and Ranchi**

888. KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the worse condition of National Highways from Rourkela to Banarpal and Rourkela to Ranchi;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to develop these roads;

(c) whether the Government have applied for World Bank or Asian Development Bank loan for the development of these roads;

(d) if so, the time by which the Government are expecting to get the loan the scheduled time to start the work; and

(e) if not, the other sources from which the Government desire to provide funds for the development of the NH-23?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T. G. VENKATARAMAN): (a) and (b) National Highways are being maintained in traffic worthy condition within available resources. Further, improvement works such as widening, strengthening, reconstruction of weak and narrow bridges and geometric improvements etc., are also being carried out in a phased manner subject to the availability of funds, traffic needs and inter-se priority.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

(e) The development of National Highway 23 passing Orissa is being considered through normal budgetary support.

**National Telecom Policy**

889. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the achievements made in the field of telecommunication after implementation of the National Telecom Policy;

(b) whether the Government have conducted any inquiry into the circumstances arising out of implementation of the telecom policy due to which targets have not been achieved;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) the number of applicants waiting for telephone connections in the country as on date and the number of the village panchayats and villages where telecommunication facilities are still not available and the manner in which the target is likely to be achieved by 2000 A.D.?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) to (d) A Statement is placed below:

**Statement**

*National Telecom Policy, 1994*

1. 8.73 million telephones have been provided during the Eighth Plan period. The waiting list, as on 31.3,97, was 2,887 million. It is planned to provide 2.9 million telephones during 1997-98 which does not include telephones to be provided by the private sector; upto 31.10.97, 8,72,583 new telephone connections had been provided.

2. Out of 6,04,374 villages in the country, 2,67,832 villages had been covered upto 31.3.97. It is planned to cover another 83, OOC villages during 1997-98, upto 31.10.97, 10,669 villages had been further covered with telephone facility. As on 31.3.97, a total of 3,45,178 public telephones have been installed in urban areas. Another 1,38,750 public telephones are programmed to be provided

during 1997-98, upto 30.9.97, 30,141 urban PCOs have been further opened in the country. As on 30.9.97, one PCO for 580 persons (average) in urban areas is available, based on 1991 Census.

3. Cellular Mobile Telephone Services have been started in four Metro cities viz., Delhi, Mumbai, Calcutta and Chennai and in Select cities of 15 Territorial Telecom Circles. Paging Service has commenced in 27 major cities and in select cities of 12 Territorial Telecom Circles. As on 30.9.97, there were approximately 6.13 lakh cellular subscribers and 6.34 lakh pager subscribers. A number of licencees for other value-added services like E-Mail, PMRTS, Voice-Mail and V-SAT Services have made their service commercially available. The details of the licences are contained in Annexure "A".

4. In pursurance of the National Telecom Policy 1994, five companies have signed the licence agreement with the Government for providing Basic Telephone Services in five Telecome Circles (the details are given in Annexure "B".

5. The achievement in respect of the VPT Programme after National Telecom Policy are contained in Annexure "C".

6. As regards R&D, the Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) and the R&D units of various PSUs have been functioning, the C-DOT are also developing ISDN, ATM, PCS and Intelligent Network Systems.

Government has reviwed the targest and achievements in respect of the VPT Programme and identified the following reasons for non-fulfillment of targets:

(i) Delay in supply of equipment by suppliers.

(ii) Delays in signing of licence agreements by the private operators who were expected to start Basic Services in several Telecom Circles from the year 1996-97. These private operators were to have contributed towards provision of public telephones in rural areas.

The villages not covered with telephone facility, as on 7.11.97, are 3,25,527, it is planned to cover the remaining villages during the Ninth Plan period. It is also expected that private operators of basic telephones services would start providing village public telephones in the following Circles where the licences have been signed:

Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharastra and Punjab.

Efforts are being made to induct new technologies by which the deployment of telecom services could be expedited.

The number of applicants in the country waiting for connections (as on 31.10.97) is about 34,90,498. The villages not covered with telephones facility (as on 7.11.97) number about 3,25,527; it is planned to cover the remanining villages during the Ninth Plan period (1997-2002) with the private operators supplementing the efforts of the Department of Telecommunications.

**Annexure "A"**

| S. No. | Name of Value Added Service | No. of Licences | No. of Licencees who have commenced the service |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Cellular Mobile Telephone Service: | | |
| | (a) Metro-cities | 8 | 8 |
| | (b) Territorial Telecome Circles | 33 | 24 |
| 2. | Radio Paging Service: | | |
| | (a) 27 Cities | 103 | 78 |
| | (b) Territorial Telecom Circles | 26 | 15 |
| 3. | Public Mobile Radio Trunked Service | 204 | 23 |
| 4. | E-Mail (including EDI, File Transfer, Protocol conversion, Fax Mail, etc.) | 16 | 14 |
| 5. | Voice Mail including Audiotex | 39 | 15 |
| 6. | 64 KBPS Data (CUG) Service using V-SATS. | 13 | 9 |

**Annexure "B"**

*Latest Status of Basic Telephone Service*

| | Name of the Companies | Circles | Present Position |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | M/s HFCL, Bezq Telecom Ltd. | Delhi, Haryana U.P (West) and Orissa | LOIs were issued on 4.3.96. On their failure to fulfil contractual obligations, EMBG invoked. They filed a Suit in Delhi High Court. Case had been decided on 19.9.97 in favour of the plaintiff. The Government has moved an appeal against this judgement before the division bench in Delhi High Court. |
| 2. | M/S Basic Teleservices Ltd. | Tamil Nadu | Accepted LOI but did not submit performance and Financial Bank Guarantees. EMBG invoked. Filed Suit in Delhi High Court. Case pending. |
| 3. | M/s Techno Telecom Ltd. | Bihar | do |
| 4. | M/s Essar Commivion Ltd. | Punjab | Signed Licence on 07.11.97 |
| 5. | M/S Tata Teleservises Ltd. | Andhra | Signed Licence on 04.11.97 |
| 6. | M/s Hughes Ispat Ltd. | Maharashtra and Karnataka | Signed Licence for Maharashtra on 30.09.97. Accepted LOI for Karnataka circle. Licence is yet to be signed. |
| 7. | M/s Bharati Telenet Ltd. | Madhya Pradesh | Signed Licence on 28.02.97 |
| 8. | M/s Reliance Telecom Ltd. | Gujarat | Signed Licence on 18.03.97 |

**Annexure "C"**

*Targets & Achievements of VPT Programme after National Telecom Policy 1994*

| Circle | Target 94-95 | Achivement During 94-95 | Target 95-96 | Achivement During 95-96 | Target 96-97 | Achivement During 96-97 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| A&N | 0 | 55 | 200 | 36 | 200 | 75 |
| AP | 3000 | 2014 | 4000 | 2601 | 3000 | 2619 |
| AS | 2000 | 2010 | 2000 | 2015 | 2000 | 1665 |
| BH | 3164 | 2595 | 11800 | 1246 | 6000 | 3526 |
| GJ | 3000 | 3041 | 2000 | 636 | 4000 | 1505 |
| HY | 1212 | 1335 | 800 | 510 | 1700 | 1204 |
| HP | 1000 | 720 | 1500 | 1005 | 1000 | 1034 |
| JK | 400 | 421 | 1000 | 297 | 600 | 730 |
| KT | 4000 | 5074 | 3700 | 3178 | 3000 | 4120 |
| KL | 18 | 18 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| MP | 5706 | 7869 | 10400 | 2026 | 7350 | 7355 |
| MH | 6000 | 5125 | 5000 | 3600 | 5000 | 4727 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| NE | 500 | 512 | 1800 | 406 | 1000 | 644 |
| OR | 3000 | 3531 | 8500 | 3961 | 5000 | 3423 |
| PB | 500 | 605 | 2300 | 338 | 4750 | 3506 |
| RJ | 4000 | 4011 | 5800 | 2122 | 6500 | 5051 |
| TN | 1500 | 1573 | 3000 | 1081 | 3200 | 2608 |
| UPE | 8000 | 5200 | 23000 | 3007 | 9000 | 5702 |
| UPW | | | 11000 | 685 | 6300 | 4000 |
| WB | 300 | 1950 | 7200 | 2691 | 5000 | 2860 |
| DEL | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| CAT | 0 | 0 | 0 | 56 | 400 | 365 |
| | 50000 | 47659 | 105000 | 31497 | 75000 | 56719 |

**Protection of Ancient Monuments in West Bengal**

890. SHRI HARADHAN ROY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the protected ancient monuments in West Bengal, district-wise;

(b) the amount incurred for their protection during the last three years;

(c) whether some monuments are in a dilapidated condition;

(d) if so, the details of such monuments; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government for protecting these monuments?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S. R. BOMMAI): (a) The details are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) 1994-95 Rs. 42,66,000

1995-96 Rs. 47,58,000

1996-97 Rs. 61,31,000

(c) to (e) No, Sir. The Conservation and maintenance of the monuments as per the archaeological norms is a continuous process. The conservation work is taken up according to the requirement of the monuments and availability of resources.

**Statement**

*The List of Centrally Protected Monuments in the State of West Bengal*

(District-wise)

| Sl. No. | Name of Monument | Locality |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| **Bankura District** | | |
| 1. | Ancient temple | Bahulara |
| 2. | Saileswar temple | Dihar |
| 3. | Sareswar temple | -do- |
| 4. | Temple of Radha Damodarji | Ghutgeria |
| 5. | Temple of Ratneswar | jagannathpur |
| 6. | Temple of Shyamsunder | Madanpur |
| 7. | Temple site now represented only by a Mound and a statue of Surya | Pareshnath |
| 8. | Temple site of an old Jain Temple now represented by a Mound with a Jain statue | -do- |
| 9. | Image of Durga slayaing Mahisasura under a tree | Sarengarh |
| 10. | Temple site now represented only by a Mound | -do- |